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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

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Telephone Address: P. O. Box 12.
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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, May 2nd, 1900.

However much we may deprecate Russia's
action in the Far East, and we certainly are
not going to whitewash her methods of pure
aggression and undisguised selfishness, there
is yet much in it that consists of genuine
progress, which as Englishmen we should be
the last to oppose or contravene. The race
that has peopled the entire breadth of the
North American continent, and has made a
nation of Australia, and accomplished all
this within the century, is not likely to
view with hostile feelings the natural outlet
that Russia has found in Eastern Asia;
rather would she extend the right hand of
friendship, and hail Russia as a fellow-
worker in the great cause of humanity. In
many respects the two great colonies of
British Columbia and Primory, which have
fallen to England and Russia respectively,
will bear comparison; both are fertile, both
possessed of great mineral wealth, and both
within that climatic range where the Euro-
pean finds the greatest scope for his faculties,
mental and physical. Moreover, both have
been part of the natural expansion of the
nation's legitimate advance. We cannot go
back to the times of WILLIAM III., nor can
Russia retrace her steps to the foundation
of her empire under her great Peter; yet so
old are the underlying causes which have
brought the two nations face to face on the
opposite shores of the North Pacific. We
have our ways of colonisation, and Russia
has hers; and it is, to say the least of it,
unfortunate that Russia, with so fair and
open a case in her hands, should have de-
cided to the unfriendly and too frequently
underhand methods which have accompanied
her march through Asia. It is true that
she did not understand Russia, and that
much of the ill-feeling that has arisen be-
tween the two Empires is the fruit of this
misunderstanding; but the misunderstanding
has been the fault of Russia herself, and

could have been avoided, had Russia taken
a little more straightforward course in her
diplomatic intercourse. There has always
been an evident desire on the part of the
English people to work with Russia; the two
nations had sufficiently much in common, and
the common sense between them showed that each
was in a position to supplement the other's
needs; and had the people of the two nations
been left to work out their own destinies,
there is no doubt that a state of mutual con-
fidence would have sprung up between the
two. But the Russian Government had no
confidence in its own people and less in that
of England; it was besides in that inchoate
stage of financial development when it
sought to render trade more profitable to
itself by arresting its development with bar-
riers raised at every possible passage. It was
true that England was its best purchaser,
and might not unreasonably expect to be
treated as a customer with a growing ac-
count. But unfortunately the more England
poured into Russia, the more distrust she
experienced; and this distrust once engendered went on in an increasing ratio, and
from trade spread into politics. Why the
discomfult of Russian trade should be con-
sidered as being in any way advantageous to
England it is difficult to surmise, but that it
should be so accepted as a truism by every
Russian Finance Minister, who took
steps accordingly to render it impossible, is
still more remarkable. That this was the
view taken is unfortunately too true, but
meanwhile events in which ministers had
comparatively little to say commenced, to
revolutionise even Russia. Though it was
the fashion to deride the emancipation of the
serfs as the harness of an amiable Em-
peror, the measure, after a generation, began
to have its natural effects in gradually
opening the eyes of the people to the great
wealth of their country, waiting only to be
developed. The present Tsar, ruled by the
most able Finance Minister that Russia has
as yet produced, threw himself heart and
soul into the project, and with the financial
help of France at his disposal set himself to
develop. The ambition is a worthy one, and
the country has already felt its effects; fol-
lowing out the tradition of Peter the Great
Russia turned her attention to the consolida-
tion of these great tracts of Asia which in
the previous generation she had overrun,
and the result quickly showed the wisdom
of the step. In such a task Russia might
have felt assured of the co-operation of Eng-
land, but all prophecies have hitherto
proved too strong, and the work was un-
luckily taken up in a spirit of hostility
rather than of friendly co-operation, and a
portion of hostile rivalry was raised between
the two countries. Again in the development
of Eastern Siberia the unfriendly feeling
was permitted to gain the upper hand, this
was more especially shown in the case of the
Great Siberian Railway, where it was as-
sumed that the addition of England would
of necessity be a hostile one. Yet England
had shown all through her interest, and her
intention not to throw any obstacles in the
way of the development of these great
territories. England, in fact, with her large
interests in the Pacific was in a position to
lull this addition to her commerce, and
purposely left the road open. That a large
section of the rising steppe of the Empire
on both sides saw that each country had
much to gain by a better understanding is
doubtless the case, but yet it is undeniable
that the old enmity is still working, and
sufficiently so to hurt the best interests of
both nations.

Having said so much we can the better
turn to what Russia has been doing in
those regions, and see how much we
really have in common. When in 1860
Russia obtained the sanction of China to
her entering the uninhabited plains between
the Ural and the Ocean, she had half un-
consciously taken a step which made her
potentially a great Pacific power. She
probably did not understand the wealth
of the new land that fell to her, but she
had acted in accordance with her tradi-
tional policy of extension along the lines of
least resistance. No other Power of the
time was in touch with this district, nor did
Russia herself for many years try to
develop it. Twenty years ago the land
was a wilderness. "Our people," said the
Governor-General Englishman, speaking of the
fertility of the land, "are not as your
agriculturalists, and have no disposition to
emigrate; if you only had it, your people
would not permit it to remain uncultivated."
But the awakening took place, and, re-
turned to freedom, the Russian peasant showed
himself equal to the task. Under the old
régime Siberia was a source of terror to the
Russian peasant, and the Government found
that compulsory banishment could never
be made a means of developing these
regions, however wealthy they might
prove; but when it turned it to the
wiser system of encouraging emigration,
results happened similar to what have
occurred with ourselves in Australia. As
long as we made our colonies the dumping-
ground for our criminal population, no ad-
vance was possible; but the result of put-
ting an end to enforced emigration was to
make a new nation, already strong enough
materially to aid the mother country. So
when Russia began to look upon Siberia as
something better than a receptacle for her
unhappy spirits, the Russian agriculturalist
commenced to avail himself of the oppor-
tunity offered by the new country. Suffice
it to say that the districts which were left
only twenty years ago to the wild beasts,
or still wilder men, are now becoming the
homes of a settled and advancing civiliza-
tion. Such has been the outcome of Russia's
new policy, and it is one in welcoming
England as well. Speaking of the
revolution brought about, engineering in its
issue of the 9th March remarked:—"We
have from time to time brought the Trans-
Siberian Railway before the notice of our
readers and indicated some of the probable
results from a commercial point of view."
"We have also shown that many of the
political problems which have recently
arisen in the Far East have been brought
about by that great undertaking, and
that, in short, the engineer is the real
revolutionist. We have pointed out the
necessity of looking at the various aspects
of a subject, as there is danger of attention

being directed too exclusively to one that its
real meaning and importance is overlooked."
"But," he went on, "we have more
than once indicated, so far as we can see,
the interests of Britain and Russia are
not antagonistic, but complementary, and
the lack of the statesman is to so guide
that there will be neither open conflict, but
"a warfare of no open conflict, but the
"welfare of all concerned promoted."
This is a wise utterance, and we hope to see
before long that the fact that the interests
of Russia in the long run rather comple-
mentary than in their nature opposed may
in time begin to bear good fruit in a better
understanding between the two Powers, who,
with all their traditional differences, have
really more in common than any other
nations, except ourselves and the United
States.

Yesterday being Derby Day, a dinner in
celebration was given at the Rokeby Hotel last
night.

Mr. William P. Aldrich of San Francisco
has been appointed United States Vice-Consul
General at Hongkong and is expected to arrive
here on the 25th inst.

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders and
Savoyards in connection with the City Hall
was held in that building yesterday afternoon.
The full report of the meeting will appear in
to-morrow's issue.

On the completion of the Japanese Naval
Programme the total number of warships in
the Japanese Navy will be brought up to 66,
but the vessels which are taking part in the
naval review will be about 40.

On the morning of the 23rd ult. an unex-
pected attempt was made to rob the Bank of China
in Singapore. The thieves got as far as the strong-
room door, but were unable to get in. Accord-
ingly their only plunder was \$9 from the
cashier's desk.

M. L. Lin K'un-yi, newly-restored Viceroy of
the Kwangsi provinces, left Tientsin on the
26th ult. by the China Merchants' steamer
"Hsien" direct for Nanking, where he expects
to arrive on the morning of the 29th inst.
A large staff accompanies him.

It is reported that at a place called Shin-
chi in Nippon, Okinawa, the natives have
discovered a French mission and wounded the
French missionary in charge. A report of the
conference has been sent to the French Consul
General at Shanghai, who is moving in the
matter.

The Return of Cases of Communicable
Disease in the Colony during the week ended
25th April shows (the total) 28 deaths; one case
of diphtheria and one death (Portuguese); and
3 cases of enteric fever and one death. The
plague record for the 24 hours up to noon yes-
terday was 5 cases and 4 deaths.

In view of the outbreak of plague in the
to-day, the Oahu authorities have decided to
make investigations to ascertain whether the
island is infected with the virus and the
island will be made shortly. Oahu with its many
rivers is infected with bats and it is proved
that they carry plague it is declared that they
will do more harm than rats in the city.

Manila papers announce several small fights
between the United States troops and the in-
surgents recently. A party of American
soldiers was attacked by a band of insurgents
near a small island near Baguio, one being killed
and two wounded. Thirty men were immedi-
ately sent to the place and found the Moros, a few
of whom were killed and the rest captured. The
insurgents were taken to the military camp. A
large number of the other band, have taken the
oath of allegiance and have been released.

On the 26th ult. a presentation was made in
Singapore by Mr. Louis Roeder, Commissioner
of Customs, who long and excellent work has
been done in the Customs Department in the
Straits Settlements. Mr. Roeder is a native of
Germany, and has been in the service of the
Straits Settlements for many years. He is a
man of high character and has been very suc-
cessful in his work. He is now in the charge
of the Customs Department in the Straits Settle-
ments. He is a man of high character and has
been very successful in his work. He is now in
the charge of the Customs Department in the
Straits Settlements.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alliance Memorial
and National Hospital has been elected to the
office of the Hospital. He is a man of high
character and has been very successful in his
work. He is now in the charge of the Hos-
pital. He is a man of high character and has
been very successful in his work. He is now in
the charge of the Hospital.

A Chinese commissioner, Tax Liang, has
recently visited Manila from Canton to investi-
gate charges made against the Chinese Govern-
ment by the United States. He is a man of
high character and has been very successful in
his work. He is now in the charge of the
Chinese Government. He is a man of high
character and has been very successful in his
work. He is now in the charge of the Chinese
Government.

A correspondent writes to The North China
Daily News that rumors are rife all over the
Wenhwa district, indicative of unrest and
discontent. The rumors are that the Chinese
Government is planning to annex the district
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KELLY & WALSH, LTD.

COMMERCIAL.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.		
MONDAY, 1st May.		
EXCHANGE.		
ON LONDON.—		
Telegraphic Transfer		1/11
Bank, on demand		1/11
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight		1/11
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight		1/11
Credit, at 4 months' sight		1/11
Demerit, at 4 months' sight		1/11
ON PARIS.—		
Bank Bills, on demand		2.46
Credit, at 4 months' sight		2.50
ON BARRACK.—		
On demand		2.00
ON NEW YORK.—		
Bank Bills, on demand		47 1/2
Bank Bills, 60 days' sight		47 1/2
Bank, on demand		145 1/2
Telegraphic Trans.		145 1/2
Bank, on demand		145 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—		
Telegraphic Transfer		145 1/2
Bank, on demand		145 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—		
Bank, at sight		71 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight		72 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—		
On demand		34 1/2

ON MANILA.—	
On demand.....	2 1/2 %
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand.....	1 1/2 %
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand.....	1 1/2 %

ON HAITHONG:—	
ON demand	3 1/2 %
ON SAIGON:—	
ON demand	2 1/2 %
ON BANGKOK:—	
ON demand	6 1/2 %
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate, 10.13	
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tola	52.90
BAR SILVER, per ox	27 1/2

JOINT STOCK SHARES.		
COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks:		[50]
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	307 p. of prem
China & Japan, pref.	24	121
do do do deferred	24	55 1/2
North Borneo	50	55 1/2

B. Shuen	£8	223½ sellers
Founders Shuen	£7	225, buyers
Boll's Ambrose E. A.	£1	225, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	210, buyers
China Borneo	\$15	211
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	210
China Sugar	\$100	212½ sales
Cotton Mills—		
Euro	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Lau Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Siam	Tls. 500	Tls. 375
Yehing	Tls. 400	Tls. 57
Yongkang	\$400	£37, sellers
Yongkang & Co.	\$35	£31, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$35	£31
Green Island Cement	\$10	£31

Li & China Bakery	\$50 \$300
Hongkong & C. Gas.	410 \$127
Hongkong Electric	\$19 \$112 buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$19 \$7, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$109 \$165, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$50 \$38, sellers
H. K. Wharf & G.	\$25 \$160
H. K. Wharf & G.	\$50 \$36 buyers
H. H. & W. Dock	\$50 \$163
Insurance	\$124 495 p. coal, prod.
Canton	\$50 \$140 sellers
China Fire	\$28 \$84
China Traders	\$25 \$144, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$30 \$230
North-China	\$25 \$146.5, ex div.
Strait	\$20 \$4, buyers

Unions	\$30	\$245, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$125, ex dir.
Land and Building		
H. Reed Investment	\$50	\$125, sellers
Kempner Estate	\$10	\$141, sellers
Kovacs Land & B.	\$33	\$36, sellers
West Point Building	\$30	\$474
Luxon Sugar	\$100	\$60, sellers
Mining		
Charbonnages	Fee 250	\$560, sellers
Great E. & O'dorian	\$5	\$24 cts. buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cts.
Jolebu	\$5	\$121, buyers
Queens Mines Ltd.	250	20 cts., sellers
Oliver's Mines Ltd.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. E.	\$4	\$125, sellers
Pumpan	\$3	\$34, sellers

Do. <i>Fredericks</i>	\$1 \$1.30
Railroad <i>Do.</i>	10. 1.4 809, sellers
New <i>Amory Dock</i>	\$66 \$20
Steamship <i>Do.</i>	
China and Manila.....	\$50 \$100
China Mutual Pref.....	210 210.10
Do. <i>Ordinary</i>	210 210.10, sellers
Do.....	25 \$5, 50
Indo-China S. N.....	210 \$12, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Company } Star <i>Berry</i>	2100 \$260
Tobacco Planting Co.....	\$10 \$10, br em
Do.....	\$5 \$5, sellers
Do.....	\$4 \$4
United <i>Asbestos</i>	\$4 \$7, buyers
Do. <i>Founders</i>	\$10 \$11
Wanchai <i>Warehouse</i>	\$37 \$32, buyers

Watkins, Limited.....	540	540 1/2, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	540	540 1/2
J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.		

OPIUM.		
	Allow's not to 1 catty	
Quotations are:—		
Malwa New 500	to	per picul.
Malwa Old..... 500	to	"
Malwa Older..... 500	to	"
P. P. per-wa new 500	to	"
Persian fine quality 500	to	"
Persian extra fine 500	to	"
Patna New..... 500	to	per chea
Patna Old..... 500	to	"
Benares New..... 500	to	"
Benares Old..... 500	to	"

THE WEATHER.							
CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER. 20th APRIL P.M.							
STATION.	Hour.	Barometer read to sea level and 255 Fath.	Temperature.	Humidity.	Wind- direction.	Force.	Weather.
Yokohama	2 p.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tokyo	31	30.30	—	—	—	—	—
Kobe	31	30.31	—	—	—	—	—
Nagasaki	31	30.23	—	—	—	—	—

Kazoshima		30.23			SE	4	6	
Tafuku	1 p.	30.12			T	7	2	
Taichu	"	30.06			N	2	N	
Taiwan	"	30.04			W	4		
Kobun	"	30.06						
Yokohama	"	30.06			NE	6		
Ginsaid	2 p.	30.10	64	73	GE	4		ov
Sharp Peak	"	30.70	60	82	NTW	3		
Amy	"	30.91	53	72	SE	1		o b
Swatow	"	30.03	73		S	4		b h
Canton	"	30.00	78	65		0		
Hongkong	"	29.93	74	65	NEH	3		
Victoria Peak	1 p.				R	2		b
San Peak	"	29.97			ENE	1		
Admiral	"	29.93	78		SE	1		c
Huifeng	1 p.							
Mailla	4 p.	29.84	93	67	ENE	1		c

Matate	5 p.						
Isokod							
Isallo							
Osaka							
C. B. Jones						ENE	4
1st MAY A.M.							
Vd'Isokod	7 a.						
Isokyo	10 a.	30.33				0	
Kochi		30.51			RE	4	
Nagasaki		30.19			SE	4	
Sagami		30.23			NE	6	
Taihuken	5 p.						
Tsichu							
Tsushima							
Kobama							
Peowdoro							
Isokyo	3 p.	30.08	62	88	33F	3	0
Isokyo		30.05	80	88	33F	3	0

San Francisco	11	29.99	70	95	NW	1	c
San Jose	11						
Camden	10	29.99	73	75	E	8	e
Longmont	10	29.99	73	75	E	8	e
Victoria Peak	9				ENE	4	e
Gap Rock	9	29.99			E	3	e
Massena	9						
Halifax	7						
Minneapolis	10	29.92	61	56	NW	1	b
Melrose	9				NW	1	b
Berkeley	9						
Holli	9						
Osaka	9						
C. S. James	7.5				ENE	3	c

Moderate or light E. winds; fair.

MISTING. FALLOONER, CN. • BEG. RAIN 1st May.
Barometer 9 A.M. 30.74 Therm. 9 A.M. (West bulb) 61
Barometer 1 P.M. 30.00 Therm. 1 P.M. (West bulb) 60
Barometer 4 " 29.85 Therm. 4 P.M. (West bulb) 60
Therm. " 5 A.M. " 63 Therm. " 6 P.M. " 70
Therm. " 7 P.M. " 70 Therm. " 8 P.M. over
Therm. " 9 P.M. " 76 night

Published for the Month of May 1871

